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**1962/08/31**

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MONGOOSE

31 August 1962

SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL GROUP (AUGMENTED)

From: Brig. Gen. Lansdale  
Subject: Phase II, Operation Mongoose

Pursuant to your instructions, transmitted herewith is a proposed projection of actions to be undertaken as Phase II, Operation Mongoose. This projection incorporates the suggestions of the operations team designated by the major departments and agencies charged with Mongoose planning and implementation.

The format employed is responsive to the 16 August 1962 guidelines for Phase II, Operation Mongoose, and to your comments at recent meetings. The projection is divided into each objective contained in the 16 August guidelines, and then lists proposed actions to attain that objective. The guideline objectives have been given short titles as follows:

- A. Discredit and isolate the regime
- B. Harass the economy
- C. Intensify intelligence collection
- D. Split regime leadership and relations with Bloc
- E. Assist Cuban exile groups and Latin American governments to take actions
- F. Be prepared to exploit a revolt

In preparing this projection of actions for Phase II, Operation Mongoose, an effort was made to restrict proposals to the "B plus" frame of reference provided and to assume that a broader frame of programming under the NSAM would supplement Mongoose by separate planning.

"Special Handling" number copies to:

Partially Declassified/Released on 11/3/94  
under provisions of E.O. 12356  
By J. Saunders, National Security Council

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- 1. General Taylor
- 2. Mr. Johnson
- 3. Mr. Gilpatric
- 4. Mr. McGone
- 5. Mr. Kennedy
- 6. General Lemnitzer

Added (Series B)

- 1. Mr. Bundy
- 2. Mr. Rusk
- 3. Mr. McNamara
- 4. Mr. Murrow

Operational Representatives (Series B)

- 5. Mr. Hurwitch (State)
- 6. General Johnson (Defense)
- 7. Mr. Harvey (CIA)
- Mr. Wilson (USIA)  
Chief of Operations

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OBJECTIVE A: DISCREDIT AND ISOLATE THE REGIME

ACTIVITY

Political

1. Encourage Latin American nations, bilaterally and through the OAS Special Consultative Committee (SCCS), to establish controls over the travel of their nationals to Cuba. (State, with CIA support).
2. Encourage Latin American nations, bilaterally and through the SCCS, to limit or prohibit entry of Cuban propaganda. (State, with CIA and USIA support).
3. Provide intelligence of arms smuggling from Cuba to other Hemisphere nations. (CIA, State, Defense).
4. As opportune, initiate action or support another nation's initiative in the OAS with respect to countering the Communist regime in Cuba. (State, with CIA support).

PURPOSE

- To diminish travel by Latin American nationals to Cuba and to facilitate the collection of intelligence on persons travelling.
- To diminish the influx of Cuban propaganda into Latin America.
- To obtain and exploit hard evidence of Cuban subversion in the Hemisphere.
- To maintain the multilateral hemispheric context of the Cuban problem.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Most Latin American nations have constitutional provisions regarding freedom of travel.
- Many Latin American countries have legal bars against admitting foreign publications.
- Commanders requested to develop and encourage Latins to develop alerting systems, to include anti-infiltration training.
- Deep division within the Hemisphere over the Cuban issue may be surfaced. As an example of this activity, the current Dominican initiative in the OAS should be supported and exploited.

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SPECIAL AGENT

ACTIVITY

PURPOSE

CONSIDERATIONS

5. Continue the program of excluding Cuba from Hemisphere organizations. (State, with CIA support).

To strengthen the isolation of Cuba.

Possible exceptions, such as in public health, should be examined to determine U.S. national interest.

6. Stimulate manifestations critical of the Castro/Communist regime by Latin American political, labor, religious, and student and other significant impact groups. (State, with CIA and USIA support).

To demonstrate that Latin America has rejected Cuba as a model to be imitated.

To be productive, such demonstrations should stem naturally out of Cuban events, as they happen. "Events" could include Cuban refugee publication of substantive facts on what is happening to students, workers, etc. inside Cuba.

7. Encourage and exploit the defection of Cuban diplomats, officials, and delegates abroad. (CIA)

To make utmost political use of revelations by Cuban "insiders."

Although keeping defectors "in place" can be more valuable, it is not always so, and if they cannot be recruited in place, then exploiting the defection fully for propaganda is important. Note items 45 and 46.

8. Keep friendly nations fully informed of the nature of the Castro/Communist regime and of U.S. policy with respect to it. (State, with CIA and USIA support).

To provide for coordinated action.

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ACTIVITY

Psychological

9. Beamed to Cuba, initiate a planned series of statements by U.S. and other free world official and non-official spokesmen which support developing and maintaining the will to resist within Cuba. (USIA, with State and CIA support).

10. Continue Voice of America short-wave broadcasts to Cuba. (USIA)

11. Continue U.S. broadcasting to the Western Hemisphere. (USIA)

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CONSIDERATIONS

To maintain resistance morale within Cuba.

Moderation must be the keynote. Some unfavorable comment from Cuban refugee groups should be expected, demanding a harder line.

To maintain regular, overt communication with the Cuban people.

The activity is based on nine hours of daily broadcasting in Spanish, with three hours daily specifically programmed for Cuba. Carefully documented programs of the failures of the Castro/Communist system will be increased, to maintain a subjective basis for Cuban disaffection. Emphasis will be given to repudiations of the Castro/Communist regime elsewhere, particularly the Western Hemisphere.

To keep the people of the Hemisphere awake to the Cuban situation.

This activity now includes both VOA short-wave broadcasts. Renewed efforts will be made to enlist support from Inter-American Broadcasters Association members and other groups. "Soap operas" and special commentaries on anti-Castro themes will be included.

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ACTIVITY

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CONSIDERATIONS

12. Produce propaganda cartoon books. (USIA).

To build and reinforce a negative image of Castro/Communism among youth, labor, and other groups in Latin America.

Themes can be updated quickly (agrarian reform problems; prisoner treatment, Soviet technicians; guerrillas, etc). Final Congressional action on USIA's FY 63 budget will determine if additional funds will have to be sought.

13. Produce photo-novels carrying the propaganda story. (USIA).

Same as 12. above.

An anti-Castro pilot model is under development. These novels would complement the cartoon books (in 12 above), particularly in urban working groups.

14. Supply TV outlets in Latin America with materials. (USIA).

Same as 12 above, plus impact on key leader audiences.

In addition to supplying documentaries and news clips, a series of one-minute puppet shorts will be tried. Commercial TV now covers all major cities in Latin America except Santiago and Valparaiso, Chile, and La Paz, Bolivia.

15. Produce short films for commercial outlets and impact groups in Latin America. (USIA).

Same as 12 above.

Government censorship of all films in Latin America presents a potential problem.

16. Produce propaganda exhibits ("before" and "after") for public and organizational display. (USIA).

Same as 12 above.

Three such exhibits are now being developed. The first one contrasts Castro's promises with his actions. An electric motor turns the slats on a venetian blind exhibit, changing the picture.

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## ACTIVITY

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17. Publish books in Spanish and Portuguese, with distribution through commercial sales and presentation. (USIA and CIA).

18. Special propaganda exploitation of U.S. information about the agricultural, labor, and public health situation in Cuba. (State, with CIA and USIA support).

19. Expand the delivery of propaganda material into Cuba via the open mails, legal travellers, and controlled couriers: (CIA).

20. Develop specific proposal for use of balloons to deliver propaganda. (CIA).

21. Direct propaganda at Soviet and other Bloc personnel in Cuba. (CIA) 4041

## CONSIDERATIONS

Volume will depend in part on results of USIA's request for supplemental funds for the Latin American book program, now pending before Congress. Several new books are now in the pipeline.

Current research on Cuba by US departments and agencies, outside Mongoose, should be maintained and then be passed into Mongoose channels for use in the project. This includes Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor, and the Public Health Service.

The "Gusano Libre" theme deserves much wider exploitation, since this is a theme created by resistance within Cuba itself.

This distribution technique must appear as a genuine Cuban refugee project. It must consider risks of injuring population or being exploited along that line by the Castro/Communist regime to the detriment of Mongoose objectives.

Same as 12 above, plus impact on intellectuals and other opinion leaders.

To make full use of the factual basis for propaganda actions exposing true conditions inside Cuba.

To disaffect the Cuban people and to help maintain the will to resist.

To provide a means of distributing propaganda inside Cuba.

To make them disaffected with their role in Cuba.

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ACTIVITY

22. "Voice of Free Cuba" broadcasts from submarine. (CIA, with Defense support).

23. Continue "Radio Americas" broadcasts from Swan Island as appropriate. (CIA).

24. Make available to the International Narcotics Commission documented evidence of Cuban exportation/importation of narcotics. (State).

25.

[REDACTED]

(S)

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CONSIDERATIONS

To have a "voice" for resistance inside Cuba.

The initial broadcasts indicated that this can be made into an effective medium, at small risk. In strengthening the effectiveness, full use should be made of talents in the Cuban refugee community. CIA will coordinate this activity closely with State and USIA.

To provide an irritant to the Castro/Communist regime.

To create increased awareness in Latin America of Cuban subversive activities.

Documented evidence available or obtainable should be fully exploited for impact upon hemisphere and world opinion.

To sow and increase distrust in Latin America of the Castro/Communist regime.

This activity will be undertaken only on a spot basis, coordinated with U.S. objectives in the specific country.

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OBJECTIVE B: HARASS THE ECONOMY

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ACTIVITY

26. Encourage the Cuban people, as appropriate, to engage in minor acts of sabotage. (CIA).

PURPOSE

To cause breakdowns of communications, power, and transport facilities; to reduce availability of raw materials; to encourage the spirit of resistance, even in a limited way.

CONSIDERATIONS

"Minor acts of sabotage" include such actions as excessive use of electricity or short-circuiting of telephone equipment, immobilizing vehicles (stealing parts, puncturing tires, contaminating gas tanks), material spoilage, and crop burning.

All forms of media, non-US government attributable, will be used to get the message to the Cuban people; however, unless a method of mass distribution of leaflets is used, it is probable that this activity will be minor and spotty.

27. Conduct selected major sabotage operations against key Cuban industries and public utilities, with priority attention: being given to transportation, communication, power plants, and utilities. (CIA)

To reduce available economic supplies and services.

Depending upon circumstances, the sabotage will be conducted either by especially trained, carefully selected commando/sabotage teams infiltrated especially for the operation and exfiltrated at the completion of the operation, or by internal assets if such can be developed with the necessary access to the target. The following are currently selected targets:

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ACTIVITY

27. (continued)

CONSIDERATIONS

Matahambre Mine-Santa Lucia

Texaco Refinery-Santiago

Shell/Esso Refinery-Habana

Regla Steam Electric Plant-Habana

Matanzas Steam Electric Plant-Matanzas

Moa Bay Nickel Plant

Paper Mill - Cardenas

Micro Wave Towers

Each operation entails risk, not only physical risk for the saboteurs, but also risk of attribution to the U.S. in case of capture. Care will be taken to give these actions the appearance of being done by internal resistance groups, and in isolating team members from press sources upon return. The U.S. handling of information, in case of contingency, will be established by CIA in coordination with USIA and State.

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ACTIVITY

28. Sabotage Cuban assets outside Cuba as targets of opportunity, provided this does not unduly affect food and medical supplies, or the Cuban people, as such. (CIA).

29. Inspire labor groups outside Cuba to obstruct free world trade with Cuba. (CIA and State).

30. Discourage free world trade with Cuba. (State, supported by CIA).

31. Encourage the OAS Special Committee to recommend further trade measures against Cuba by Latin American countries. (State).

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CONSIDERATIONS

To cripple Cuban commerce and place strain upon regime security forces.

Things, not people, are the targets. This activity requires a capability to act quickly on spot intelligence. Targets are seen mostly as shipments of products into or from Cuba. Sabotage would be to cause undue delay of shipment, using additives to spoil a commodity, fire or water damage, etc. A recent example was reported, post-action, on a shipment to the USSR.

To force the use of more Bloc resources, including shipping.

This is an activity mostly in third countries.

To force the use of more Bloc resources, to deny Cuba hard currency earnings, and to hasten deterioration of Cuba's essentially free world equipped industrial plant.

Most free world trading nations are opposed to imposing necessary trade controls. Importers might be dissuaded from using Cuba as a source of supply, such as the example of Japan recently. Preclusive buying and other forms of economic warfare deserve hard consideration.

To provide a basis for renewed pressures upon NATO to recommend trade controls to NATO members.

OAS Special Committee action should be geared to SCCS reports or other developments in the Hemisphere which might provide a good basis for Special Committee action.

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ACTIVITY

32. Reduce production of export agricultural commodities in Cuba, by covert means. (CIA).

33.

[REDACTED] (S)

PURPOSE

To cripple Cuban commerce vital to the regime's domestic economic program.

To sabotage Cuba's transportation and defense capability.

CONSIDERATIONS

The main export commodities are sugar, tobacco, tropicals, and coffee. Activities would include [REDACTED] hampering of harvests by work slow-downs, destruction of bags, cartons, and other shipping containers, sabotage of sugar mill machinery, etc. (S)

The operational difficulties in this activity are recognized. However, a priority alert for this is warranted.

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OBJECTIVE C: INTENSIFY INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION

REF ID: A66511

ACTIVITY

34. Spot, recruit, and train legally established Cubans in Cuba or in Cuban Government Posts abroad. (CIA, supported by State and Defense).

PURPOSE

The purpose of all activities under this objective is to provide maximum intelligence coverage of Cuba with particular emphasis on the following:

- a. Capabilities and intentions of the Castro Government.
- b. Soviet activities in Cuba including details of Soviet military personnel, units, locations, capabilities, et al.
- c. Activities of Cuban G-2.
- d. Military and militia order of battle and morale.
- e. State of resistance including the tone and temper of the population.
- f. Focus of power and/or stress and strain among the "Power Centers" in the Cuban Government.

CONSIDERATIONS

When possible they will be recruited and trained while visiting outside Cuba; however, when necessary recruitment and training will be done inside Cuba either by established agents or by agents infiltrated especially for the task. Whether this is done unilaterally or jointly with a third country intelligence organization is determined on a case by case basis.

In some cases the travel as generated specifically by CIA; in other cases the travels can be utilized to meet intelligence requirements.

g. Evidence of Cuban subversive activities in the hemisphere.

REF ID: A66511

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PURPOSE

ACTIVITY

CONSIDERATIONS

34. (continued)

In addition to meeting the above cited intelligence objectives, operational intelligence, and recruitment leads as well as agent material result from the Opa-locka [redacted] operations. In addition to meeting basic intelligence requirements above, timely operational intelligence is vital to CIA current operations.

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35. Spot, recruit, and train third country nationals resident in Cuba. (CIA, supported by State and Defense).

See 34 above.

36. Spot, recruit and train legal travellers who have potential access to significant information. (CIA, supported by State and Defense).

See 34 above.

37. Continue Caribbean Admissions Center, Opa-locka, Florida. (CIA, with Defense, USIA, and other support).

See 34 above.

The continuation of the refugee flow and the selective debriefing of refugees provide the most significant source of intelligence. Follow up debriefing of selected refugees after departure from Opa-locka will continue.

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ACTIVITY

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CONSIDERATIONS

38. [REDACTED] (S)

See 34 above.

39. Maintain PAA service between the U.S. and Cuba. (State, with CIA support).

[REDACTED] to continue the exodus of skilled manpower from Cuba. (S)

PAA requires financial assistance to continue this activity.

40. [REDACTED] (S)

See 34 above.

41. Continue monitoring overt Cuban broadcasts. (CIA).

To obtain intelligence and propaganda material.

This is done on a regular basis by FBIS.

42. [REDACTED] (S)

See 34 above.

[REDACTED] (S)

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ACTIVITY

[REDACTED]

(S)

44. Establish program of periodic reports from U.S. Embassies in Hemisphere analyzing the effects of existence of the target area regime on host country. (State).

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CONSIDERATIONS

See 34 above.

[REDACTED]

(S)

To maintain a reasonably current estimate of the impact of the target area regime on the Hemisphere.

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

OBJECTIVE D: SPLIT REGIME LEADERSHIP AND RELATIONS WITH BLOC

ACTIVITY

PURPOSE

CONSIDERATIONS

45. Collect personality information on key Cuban individuals, their personalities, their attitudes, their associates, and their influences. (CIA and others).

To identify channels to key individuals and to identify frictions between the individuals.

This is a long term continuing program. The degree to which these channels can be developed depends on basic professional work plus the "breaks of the game." The exploitation of the channel or of any splits in the regime will be determined in the light of existing circumstances at the time the channel is effectively established or the split is detected.

46. Develop channels of communication to selected key individual and "power centers" of the regime. (CIA)

To permit exploitation of the key individuals.

47. Conduct psychological and political action. (CIA and State).

To attain the objective.

Activity will include:

- a. By public and private comment, to stimulate distrust and disaffection in the leadership and ranks of the supporters of the Castro regime, principally among the militia, the government bureaucracy, by organized labor, youth and students, farmers.

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

ACTIVITY

47. (continued)

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- c. Provoke incidents between Cubans and Bloc personnel to exacerbate tensions.

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OBJECTIVE E: ASSIST CUBAN EXILE GROUPS AND LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERTAKE ACTIONS

ACTIVITY

PURPOSE

CONSIDERATIONS

48. Stimulate, support and guide covertly the propaganda and political activities of all Cuban exile groups and individuals offering useful impact inside Cuba and upon world opinion. (CIA, with-State and USIA support).

To encourage and maintain the will of the Cuban people to resist Castro/Communist rule. To provide an articulate, meaningful symbol and voice of free Cuba to inform and influence public and official opinion outside Cuba.

Major popular impact groups can be most effective in production and dissemination of propaganda that reports on the true state of Cuba's enslavement and misery under Communist dictatorship. Cubans speaking for Cuba are the most credible witnesses possible. Groups such as a "Free Cuban Judicial Committee" could publicize and openly prepare for eventual punishment of those committing "crimes against the people of Cuba." This program of support for exiles should consider exiles in hemisphere countries and Spain as well as those in the USA. As possible, the exiles should manage and lead in this effort, with U.S. assisting and advising.

49. Provide covert support to the Cuban Revolutionary Council (CRC). (CIA).

To provide a degree of cohesion within the exile community and to provide a cover and funding mechanism for the invasion survivors and prisoners. In addition some funding of constituent exile groups is handled thru CRC. To support and guide CRC propaganda activities directed at Latin America and Cuba itself.

In spite of its many inadequacies, the CRC performs a variety of useful functions which, if it were to be disbanded, would have to be handled by possibly less efficient means.

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ACTIVITY

50. Encourage and support other government programs in the hemisphere to undertake programs for Cuba along lines of our own effort. (State, CIA).

PURPOSE

To develop a multi-national program with common goals and timing, upon a separate-but-collective basis. To direct attention and effort toward initiative of Latin American countries instead of placing focus mainly on the U.S.

CONSIDERATIONS

This will require the highest order of overt and covert U.S. actions, to stir and support initiative in other national leaders. Reasonable but not prohibitive criteria for consultation and coordination is involved, with recognition that the U.S. is helping not employing the third nation efforts.

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ACTIVITY

55. Cache arms, ammunition, and other supplies in areas of Cuba accessible to known resistance elements and in potential resistance areas. (CIA).

PURPOSE

To have available in Cuba a reserve of arms and ammunition.

56. Recruit, train, and supply small resistance cells in the major cities and in other selected areas of Cuba. (CIA).

To provide controlled intelligence sources and to be available in the event of an uprising.

CONSIDERATIONS

This will require extensive maritime infiltration/exfiltration operations. It is considered likely that Cuban maritime patrolling will be such that in the near future if the job is to be done, submarines must be used in lieu of surface craft.

Experience and continually tightening security controls have demonstrated the difficulty of infiltrating and monitoring individuals or "Black Teams" in the target country for an indefinite period. Nor has any method yet been devised by which infiltrates can become "legalized." Therefore, two to five man teams will be infiltrated to recruit and train small "legal" compartmented intelligence and/or resistance cells. Upon completion of training, the infiltrated team will be withdrawn if it is seriously endangered or if its continued presence jeopardizes the "legal" residents. The program will be developed to the extent that proves feasible and possible in the light of existing circumstances, including Cuban security controls, morale and motivation of agent material and the willingness of the Cuban population to support infiltrates. Increased Cuban defensive capabilities may require the utilization of submarines or aircraft as a means of infiltration and/or exfiltration in lieu of surface maritime facilities.

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